The proposals are being prioritised keeping in view the fact that no budgetary support would be provided by Government to MOIL for their implementation. Techno-economic viability of the projects would also need to be established before under-taking their implementation.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

2518. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of resource personnel who are working in the campus of Visakhapatnam Steel plant;

(b) what are their qualifications and since how long they are working;

(c) what is their total pay; and

(d) whether Government have received any representations to absorb them in the plant and if so, with what effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) VSP has been engaging resource persons through Shramik Vidyapeeth since 1987 for conducting classes of Junior and Senior Trainees in Hindi, English, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science. At present there are 9 such personnel, Name and Educational Qualifications are given in the statement (*see* below).

(c) Until January, 1992, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant were paying the Shramik Vidyapeeth an amount of Rs. 1500 per month per resource person including Rs. 100 per month towards institutional charges to Shramik Vidyapeeth. From February, 1992 this honorarium has been raised to Rs. 2000 per month per resource personnel including institutional charges of Rs. 150/-.

(d) Yes, Sir, The matter has been examined in consultation with the management of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. These persons are not in the employment of Visakhapatnam Steel plant but have been engaged by Shramik Vidyapeeth. Visakhaptnam Steel Plant does not require their services on regular basis. The resource persons do not have the qualifications as per the requirements of VSP. If these persons acquire requisite qualifications they can be considered against future vacancies.

Statement

Particulars

Sl. No.	Name	Qualifications	Date of Birth	Date of Joining
1	2	3	4	5
1	K.S. Ratna Kumari	M.A. (History) Typewriting English (Higher)	21-09-56	06-03-87
2	H. Lakshmipathi	M.A., B. Ed.	10-09-60	07-03-87
3	B.B.N.S. Lakshmi	M.A. (Hindi) Shityaratna Hindi Prachara Training, Hindi Type Higher, English Type Lower.	01-11-59	14-07-87

1	2	3	4	5
4	P. Ramakrishna . . .	M. Sc.	16-11-64	18-09-87
5	G.C. Panigrahi . . .	M.A. (Hindi) English typ: Lower	10-06-61	01-12-87
6	A. Krisha Rao . . .	M.A.	02-06-57	01-12-87
7	K. Lakshmana Rao . .	M.A., B. Ed.	08-02-61	08-01-88
8	L. Dharma Rao . . .	M.A. (Hindi)	01-04-61	25-01-88
9	P. Krishna Rao . . .	B. Sc. B. Ed.	28-06-64	16-06-89

Signing of M.O.U. by SAIL with Foreign Companies for Supply of Steel

2519. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with a Middle East and an Egyptian Company for supply of Steel for the construction of power transmission towers;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for such a Memorandum of Understanding;

(c) the estimated foreign exchange likely to be earned in the deal; and

(d) by when SAIL would supply steel to foreign firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Investment by Foreign Companies in Steel Industry

2520. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite Government's liberal policy, the response from the private sector in the country and foreign companies to invest in the steel industry has not been encouraging;

(b) if so, what are the reasons identified for their poor response;

(c) whether Government have been working on a package of measures to facilitate investment by private sector and foreign companies in steel industry ; and

(d) if so, what are details thereof, if finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The large number of Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda filed for new steel projects and expansion of existing capacities is indicative of the interest shown by the private sector to invest in the steel industry. The State Governments of Orissa and Karnataka have proposed to implement integrated steel plants in the joint sector. Interest has also been shown by some private sector companies to set up large integrated steel plants. A number of sponge iron/pig iron plants are under implementation in the private sector.

Iron & Steel have been recently included in the list of high priority industries. Such industries have the facility for automatic approval of foreign investment in equity upto